

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

Replacement sheets representing drawings of Figures 3 and 4 are being submitted herewith. Applicants request consideration and approval of the drawings by the Examiner.

Enclosures: Replacement Figures 3 and 4

## **REMARKS**

By this amendment, original claims 1-22 are canceled and new claims 23-45 are submitted herewith for consideration for patentability by the Examiner. Reconsideration of the patentability of the application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and remarks provided below.

Support for claims 23 and 34 may be found on page 18, line 32 to page 19 line 33 and page 22 lines 25-27. Support for claims 24 and 35 may be found on page 19, lines 11-14 and page 22, lines 25-27. Support for claims 25 and 36 may be found on page 27, lines 27-34. Support for claims 26 and 37 may be found on page 28, lines 18-27. Support for claims 27 and 38 may be found on page 29, lines 10-23. Support for claims 28 and 39 may be found on page 22, lines 17-25. Support for claims 29 and 40 may be found on page 25, lines 10-11. Support for claims 30, 31 and 41, 42 may be found on page 19, lines 14-16. Support for claims 32 and 43 may be found on page 24, lines 6-21. Support for claims 33 and 45 may be found on page 25, line 24 to page 26, lines 10. Support for claim 45 may be found on page 33, claims 20-21.

Applicants' invention is directed to controlling the workflow process in a method and system for printing electronic documents wherein the placement of page numbers and other attributes particularly for complex documents is advantageously delayed until the document is in a printer ready file format. As defined in the specification (see page 8 starting at line 25) printer ready file format is defined as a file format which contains both data to be printed along with printer control instructions that can be directly interpreted by the internal processing engine of the printer or other form of hardcopy output devices in order to rasterize the image data onto the output media. Various known file formats meeting this criterion are known and identified in the specification and include documents such as PDF documents. The present invention provides flexibility in the process of printing page numbers on the pages of the document by including either a flag, tag or marker that indicates which pages are going to contain page numbers. The flag, tag or marker is placed inside the PDF page and stored with the PDF page in memory. At print time, a page number generation module would iterate through the pages of the document, querying whether or not each of the pages was to receive a number. The correct number would then be

applied to the page in the correct locations, and with the correct appearance. Therefore, if new pages were added to a document, pages were deleted from the document or pages were moved around, the page numbering would still be correct. The electronic document with the page numbers added is also provided as a PDF document having instructions for printing by the printer to allow for reduced processing time for the printing of the document into hardcopy form.

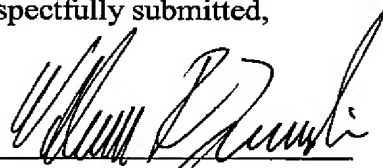
In considering the prior art it is noted that Kremer et al. (US 2001/0043365A1) is directed to a printing system wherein flexibility of printing the tab contents on any one of the tab pages of an ordered set is provided for by establishing a flag or marker indicating the page containing a tab plus the information that needs to be rendered on the tab inside the PDF page and stored in a memory. This facilitates movement of this page around the document or copying of it to a different document. Kremer et al. notes that the job preparation station may be provided to add annotations to the document including page numbers. However, since the function of the flag or marker is to identify only tab pages there is no teaching of the use of the flag or marker with other pages of the document to permit for calculation of page numbers for the document. Krist et al. (EP 0 478 351 A2) is directed to a page numbering system in a reprographic printing system that generates page numbers and formats. The numbering of nondocument pages are noted to be skipped. Particularly these nondocument pages are those provided as tab stock. It is submitted that the combination of Kremer et al. with Krist would merely suggest to the routineer that the use of a flag or marker as taught by Kremer et al. would merely be used by Krist to identify those documents that are the documents that are to be skipped when numbering of pages is calculated. This would be a direct teaching contrary to applicants' claimed invention. For these reasons it is respectfully submitted that claims 23 through 45 are patentable over the prior art.

Accompanying this amendment are amended sheets of drawings for Figures 3 and 4. More particularly, Figure 3 is amended to remove number 325 and to add number 313. Figure 4 is amended to identify the six physical pages 401, 402, 403, 404, 405 and 406. In addition, the number 401 has been removed so that it no longer identifies page 5. With these amended sheets of drawings it is submitted that the objections to the drawings have been overcome.

In the event that prosecution may be advanced by a telephone

interview, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned to arrange for a suitably convenient time for a telephone interview.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William R. Zimmerli', written over a horizontal line.

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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.